



THE CAVALRY CHARGE

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America's First Team

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Long Knives stay sharp in Kuwait

By Spc. Terence Ewings
4th BCT PAO, 1st Cav. Div.

CAMP BUEHRING, Kuwait— Troopers from 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, maintained their combat readiness with training classes, here in the desert of Kuwait, prior to their deployment north into Iraq in the coming weeks.

Long Knife brigade Soldiers will be the first brigade combat team from the division to deploy in support of Operation New Dawn.

“Our troops are ready to carry out the mission,” said Capt. Warren Sears, the brigade battle captain from Pineville, La. “This training is just a final conditions check we conduct prior to beginning the mission. Here we receive situational training from experts that are on the ground and have the latest (information).”

The Soldiers participated in weapon certification ranges, combat life-saving classes, humvee egress assistance training and counter improvised explosive device classes to refresh the skills they acquired during brigade field training exercises and at the Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) in Fort Polk, La.

“This is good training to have before we go into Iraq,” said Staff Sgt. Benetta Gamble, a logistics non-commissioned officer assigned to the 27th Brigade Support Battalion. “It prepares you what to expect and how to react to it on the road.”

Gamble, heading out on her second deployment to Iraq, took part in classes like this with the rest of the brigade during their culminating training event at JRTC.

“It pays off to sit down in these classes and then take part in hands-on training like this,” said the Tampa, Fla. native.

1st Sgt. Wesley Stollings, of the 4th Brigade Special Troops Battalion Headquarters and Headquarters Company believes this helps to keep Soldiers ready and on their toes during the transition from Fort Hood, Texas to Iraq.

“The troops are staying motivated and [making] the most out of this training,” said Stollings, originally from Houston, Texas.

The Soldiers will continue their refresher classes and training prior to their movement to northern Iraq for their scheduled deployment.



U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Renee Wilson, 4th BCT PAO, 1st Cav. Div.

Soldiers assigned to the 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, climb out of a simulated tactical vehicle after experiencing a “roll-over” during a humvee egress assistance training class, here, Sept. 14.

Future Soldiers raise their right hand become privates

By Spc. Kim Browne
1st Cav. Div. PAO

FORT HOOD, Texas – When someone enlists in the Army there are many things they have to go through; from a full physical examination to raising their right hand and reciting the Oath of Enlistment from an Army commissioned officer.

At a public ceremony Sept. 9, at the Temple Mall, in Temple, Texas, family and friends gathered around as Col. Gary Volesky, deputy commanding general, 1st Cavalry Division, as he gave a motivational speech to 19

future Soldiers from the Temple Army Recruiting Station, and also gave them their initial Oath of Enlistment.

Staff Sgt. Jonathan Denney, of Las Cruces, N.M., and Staff Sgt. Heather Hathaway, of Wellsville, Pa., both recruiters at the Army Recruiting Station, Temple, Texas, said they were very fortunate that Col. Volesky was willing to come out and support the future of today’s Army.

The ceremony was arranged to motivate the future Soldiers and it was also a means for family, friends and strangers to see firsthand the Oath of Enlistment into the Army.

“This was the first time I have got to give the oath to

civilians and watch them become privates,” said Volesky. “I was very honored.”

During the ceremony Volesky spoke about the Army Values, the differences between now and when he came into the Army, and what the Army stands for today.

“[Future Soldiers] have to understand what our values are, understand what their responsibilities are, and understand that this organization they’re coming into isn’t like the organization I came into in 1984,” he said. “All of our Soldiers are smarter, we expect our Soldiers to be better than we were in 1984 and I wanted to impress upon them the responsibility they have.”

While concluding the ceremony, Volesky congratulated the future Soldiers on their choice and welcomed them into the Army.

“Having Col. Volesky give us the Oath of Enlistment was one of the proudest moments of my life,” said Keri Bailey, a future Soldier and a senior.

Most of these future Soldiers have their final year of high school to complete before “shipping off.” Others only have a few months left as a civilian. They all have a couple of hurdles left before they can go to basic training—keeping their nose clean and stepping on that bus.



U.S. Army photo by Spc. Kim Browne, 1st Cav. Div. PAO

Col. Gary Volesky (left), deputy commanding general, 1st Cavalry Division, gives the initial Oath of Enlistment to future Soldiers, 9 Sept., at the Temple Mall.



U.S. Army photo by Spc. Kim Browne, 1st Cav. Div. PAO

Col. Gary Volesky (left), deputy commanding general, 1st Cavalry Division, gives the initial Oath of Enlistment to future Soldiers, 9 Sept., at the Temple Mall.

1CD Deputy Commanding General - Support COL James M. Richardson

First Team Family:

Happy 89th Birthday to the 1st Cavalry Division! To celebrate the occasion, the First Team held various events this week in honor of our current and former Troopers, family and friends. We conducted a division-wide run, cut a birthday cake in traditional Cavalry form, conducted a retirement ceremony, hosted our veterans to lunch and held a 1st Cav Band concert on the museum lawn. It was an appropriate series of events to honor our lineage and celebrate the Division's service to the Nation.

The Division is currently bidding farewell to the 4th Brigade Combat Team, or "Long Knife" Brigade who is deploying to northern Iraq this month as part of Operation New Dawn. On 1 September, U.S. military operations in Iraq assumed that new name and the Long Knife Brigade was the first brigade combat team to deploy under the new moniker. In a Division of many "firsts," it is appropriate that our 4th Brigade be the first to usher in a new era in Iraq.

The Division continues to train and prepare for our next mission. Our Brigade Combat Teams are training on crew, platoon and company level tasks, to include gunnery in preparation for the collective training that lies ahead. This training is providing a solid foundation upon which our units will use to succeed during future mission readiness exercises and deployments.

Concurrent with our field training in preparation for future deployments, we continue to strengthen our Army families' resiliency with some of the best resources in the Army that address our Troopers' and Families' mental, spiritual and physical health. This month, the Division conducted its first Health Promotion Council to review how we identify, engage and mitigate risk to our Soldiers. This Council is one of many steps the 1st Team is taking to implement guidance in the Army's recent "Health Promotion, Risk Reduction, Suicide Prevention Report." Leaders at all levels in the Division are actively engaged in promoting health and wellness in our Troopers simply because it's the right thing to do.

Enjoy this edition of "The Cavalry Charge! "Live the Legend!"



U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Hoskins, 1st ACB PAO, 1st Cav. Div.

KILLEEN, Texas – Students from Trimmier Elementary School and Soldiers from 4th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, cheer and shout patriotic slogans during the school's annual Freedom Walk. The walk is in remembrance and conjunction with the events of 9/11. ~ Pg. 3



1st Cavalry Division
Public Affairs Office

Commanding General:

Maj. Gen. Daniel Allyn

Public Affairs Officer:

Lt. Col. Chad Carroll

Public Affairs Chief:

Master Sgt. Nicholas Conner

Editor:

Spc. Adam Turner

Staff Writers:

Staff Sgt. Nathan Hoskins, Staff Sgt. Kyle Richardson

Sgt. Alun Thomas, Sgt. Karl Williams

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Spc. Terence Ewings, Spc. Sharla Lewis,

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1st Cav, kids celebrate freedom

By Staff Sgt. Nathan Hoskins
1st ACB PAO, 1st Cav. Div.

KILLEEN, Texas — Soldiers from the 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, took part in a patriotic adopt-a-school event with the children and faculty of Trimmier Elementary School, Sept. 10.

In an effort to reach out to the local community, Soldiers from 4th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, attended Trimmier Elementary's 9/11 remembrance ceremony and annual Freedom Walk.

The morning's events included multiple presentations and songs by the schools choir, an essay contest, a flag folding demonstration, and remarks by guest speaker, Maj. Dan Legereit, from Metropolis, Ill., the executive officer for 4-227th.

Legereit spoke to the students about the meaning of freedom and encouraged them to interact during his presentation.

"They understand what freedom means. They truly ... understand their choice for education and religion and the freedoms that they have," said Legereit. "They seem very, very gracious to have that freedom."

The faculty found the presentations by the Soldiers inspiring and worthwhile.

"It was great to have Maj. Dan Legereit out there. He was very interactive with the crowd. The kids really liked ... the interaction with him," said Daniel Helvetius Jr., a counselor for Trimmier Elementary School.

"And the flag-folding ceremony was awesome. I've never seen kids participate in it like that," he added.

The mass of children waved small flags throughout the morning activities – including a parade-like walk around the school – complete with banners – while chanting slogans of freedom.

Red, white and blue saturated the event, along with smiles and laughter from the students, faculty and Soldiers.

This demonstration of patriotism impressed Legereit, making him feel comfortable about the nation's future.

"I think it shows that the next generation of our country is in good hands. They're being brought up the way they need to to carry on the freedoms we hold dear," said Legereit.

With such a close, military-based community in Killeen, 4-227th and Trimmier Elementary School look forward to many more events like this, said Helvetius.

"There is a lot of patriotism and a lot of love here and a lot of cooperation between the unit and us to do more events," he said.



U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Hoskins, 1st ACB PAO, 1st Cav. Div.

A student from Trimmier Elementary School waves his flag during a 9/11 remembrance ceremony, Sept. 10. The children all had a flag which they waved throughout the morning's events. After multiple presentations and performances by the schools choir, Soldiers from 4th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, walked around school with the students and faculty during their annual Freedom Walk.



U.S. Army photo by Spc. Adam Turner, editor

KILLEEN, Texas— Harker Heights High School student Kiefer Shenk (left holding banner), and three other students from around the Killeen Independent School District lead a group of Ft. Hood Soldiers, KISD students, faculty, parents, and community leaders around the track at Leo Buckley Stadium, Sept. 10. The "Freedom Walk" is a national tradition that calls for people to reflect on the lives lost September 11, 2001 and since the beginning of combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Maj. Gen. Daniel Allyn, 1st Cavalry Division commander, visits with a couple of Killeen Independent School District students prior to his address during the KISD "Freedom Walk" assembly at Killeen High School gymnasium, Sept. 10. During his address to the nearly 600 Soldiers, Wounded Warriors, local community leaders, and KISD students and faculty, Allyn thanked the many young patriots in attendance for their unwavering support for the Soldiers here at Fort Hood, Texas. Allyn also asked for the continuation of such events as the 'Freedom Walk' to remind all Americans of the sacrifices given on and since the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.



U.S. Army photo by Spc. Adam Turner, editor

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FACEBOOK:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Daniel-B-Allyn/126474350717156>



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LIVE THE LEGEND!

Nearly 13,000 troopers from “America’s First Team” fell into formation the morning of Sept. 10 for a division run celebrating the 89th birthday of the 1st Cavalry Division, here on Fort Hood, Texas.

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THIS MONTH IN 1ST CAV HISTORY

First Cavalry Division units have served the nation from 1855 to the present; building a history rich in pride with solid ties to the traditions and heritage of the United States Cavalry.

The famed 1st Cavalry Division was baptized by fire and blood on the western plains in an era of horse-mounted cavalry. Dubbed the “First Team” by Major General William C. Chase, the division has always strived not only to be the first, but to be the best.

The division’s roots date back to 1855 when the 2nd Cavalry Regiment was organized. Redesignated as the 5th Cavalry in 1861, this unit participated in a number of famous Civil War engagements, including Bullrun, Antietam, Gettysburg, Wilderness, and Appomattox.

The sound of the bugle and the cry of “Charge!” sent the thundering hooves of the U.S. Cavalry troopers to protect the western-bound settlers in an era when Indians roamed the western frontier and pioneering settlers clung to their land with determination and luck.

The 5th, 7th, 8th, and 9th Cavalry regiments that would one day form the Division, clashed with the Sioux, Comanche, Arapaho, Apache, and Ute Indian Nations during the Indian Wars, led by colorful characters like Col. George Armstrong Custer.

As the Indian campaigns concluded, the Cavalry patrolled the far western frontiers from the frozen tundras of Alaska to the scorching deserts of the southwest. Just prior to World War I, the Cavalry engaged Pancho Villa’s forces during the punitive expedition into Mexico.

With the initiation of the National Defense Act, the 1st Cavalry Division was formally activated on September 13, 1921 at Fort Bliss, Texas. That day, the 7th and 8th Cavalry Regiments were assigned to the division. The 5th Cavalry Regiment was assigned on December 18, 1922.

In addition to three of the four regiments of the cavalry, the original organization included the 82nd Field Artillery Battalion (Horse), the 13th Signal Troops, the 27th Ordnance Company, Division Headquarters, and the 1st Cavalry Division Quartermaster Train which later became the 15th Replacement Company. Major General Robert L. Howze was assigned as the first division commander.

The division’s early history is largely a saga of rough riding, patrolling the Mexican border, and constant training. Operating from horseback, the cavalry was the only force capable of piercing the desert’s harsh terrain and halting the band of smugglers that operated along the desolate Mexican border.

As the depression of the 30’s forced thousands of workers into the streets, the division was asked to provide training for 62,500 people in the Civilian Conservation Youth Corps. These workers constructed barracks for 20,000 anti-aircraft troops at Fort Bliss, Texas in preparation for the Air Age.

Although the division was created as a result of a proven need for large horse-mounted formations, by 1940, the march of progress had left the horse far behind.

The era of the tank, automobile, aircraft, and parachute had dawned and eclipsed the age of the armored horseman. The Japanese surprise attack on Pearl Harbor erased all doubt. An impatient 1st Cavalry Division was dismounted in 1943 and processed for overseas movement to the Southwest Pacific as foot soldiers.

Presently the First Cavalry Division is one of the most famous and most decorated combat divisions of the United States Army. Currently, the division is a rapidly deployable heavy armored division of the United States Army with base of operations in Fort Hood, Texas. It is one of the largest divisions of the U.S. Army with over 20,000 soldiers serving in 4 separate combat brigades and support units. The division’s 4th Brigade Combat Team is currently in Kuwait training for their role in the U.S. Army’s newest mission in Iraq “Operation New Dawn.” While the remaining brigades here prepare and train daily for their next call to duty in the coming year.

Currently the 1st Cavalry Division is subordinate to the III Corps and is commanded by Major General Daniel B. Allyn.

89 Cav. celebrates 89 years 89



U.S. Army photo by Spc. Kim Browne, 1st Cav. Div. PAO

Maj. Gen. Daniel Allyn, commander of the 1st Cavalry Division, emphasizes the history of the division before having the cake cut for the division’s 89th birthday celebration Sept. 10 at Club Hood.



U.S. Army photo by Spc. Kim Browne, 1st Cav. Div. PAO

Pictured from left to right is Sgt. Jose Rivas, NCO of the year for 1st Cavalry Division, Lt. Col. (Ret.) Ivor McKay, Senior Trooper, and Pvt. Alex Templeman, youngest trooper in the 1st Cav. Div., help the division celebrate its 89th birthday by cutting the cake Sept. 10 at Club Hood. Rivas is assigned to Division Headquarter and Headquarters Battalion, 1st Cav. Div. Templeman is assigned to 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cav. Div.



U.S. Army photo by Spc. Kim Browne, 1st Cav. Div. PAO

The 1st Cavalry Division celebrates their 89th birthday with a cake cutting ceremony, Sept. 10, at Club Hood. The division was formally activated on Sept. 13, 1921 at Fort Bliss, Texas. Since its activation, Cavalry Soldiers served in major conflicts: World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Bosnia and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

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